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Understanding Homelessness Through Women's Experiences and Journey Through it

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Table of findings

Reason	Name of Participant	No. Of children	Attitude	Knowledge	Arrival	Activity	Shelter	Cooking area	Interaction with community/JMPD/government officials/local church	Access to public amenities and health care services
Women living without their children and without spouses/boyfriends	Anna	6	She is hopeful that she will get a house from government. She has a positive outlook of the situation that she is in because of the fence that has been erected that makes her feel safe.	She did not go to school.	She is originally from Mozambique. She settled in the following places in South Africa: -Mpumalanga -Ivory Park - Midrand central (bush)	She works in the informal sector. She sells corn, fruits and vegetables.	The shelter that she lives in is constructed out of hard plastic and boards.	Outside	She has been in contact with the local church and the JMPD. The church has provided assistance and the JMPD constantly harassed by burning her clothes.	She uses the bush as a toilet, she obtains water from the garage and has access to health care facilities in Midrand
	Ma Ntombi	1	She is hopeful that the government will provide her with a house and she feels safe on the site.	Standard 3	She lived in Middleburg with her Grandparents. She moved to Pretoria, Ivory Park and Midrand central	Hawker	The shelter that she lives in is constructed out of plastic, boxes and a tree branch.	Outside	None. She has not come into contact with the JMPD because she was in Ivory Park.	She uses the bush as a toilet, she obtains water from a standalone pipe and has access to health care facilities (Midrand clinic, Midway Mews)
	Pamela	1	Despondency.	Did not complete her schooling	She is originally from the Eastern Cape. She arrived in Midrand Snake Park, moved to Rustenburg, Pretoria and the bush in Midrand central.	She does recycling, sells beer and cigarettes.	The shelter that she lives in is made out of plastic and cardboard boxes.	Outside	She has come into contact with the JMPD who burnt down her shack. She has also come into contact with members of the local church who give her food and clothes.	She gets water from the garage, she uses the bush as a toilet and the clinic at Midway Mews
Women living without their children with spouses/boyfriend	Bula	1	Despondency. She feels safe and free on the site.	Standard 8	She is originally from Cape Town. She recently moved to Klipfontein to live with her parents and now lives in Midrand central (bush).	None. She gains financial support from her family	The shelter that she lives in is constructed out of plastic and boards	Outside	none	Uses the local tavern to go to the toilet and gets water close to the robots by an open bush
	Zodwa	4	She hopes that she will have a better life and she feels safe on the site.	Form 3	She lived with her mom in Soweto. She relocate d to an informal settlement in Tembisa, Puma Sizwe, Kaalfontein and now live in Midrand central (bush).	None	The shelter is constructed out of plastic and boards	She cooks outside but sometimes she uses a paraffin stove	none	When she has money she uses the toilet at the Boulders Shopping Centre, otherwise she uses the bush. She gets water from a vacant piece of land that has a standalone pipe. She uses the clinic in Kaalfontein.
	Thandi	1	Despondency but she feels safe on the settlement.	Standard 6	She lived in a flat in Midrand prior to moving to the bush.	None, she is dependent on her boyfriend financially	The shelter that she lives in is predominately made out of hard plastic and boards.	Outside	Only the JMPD because they burnt down her clothes.	She uses the bush as a toilet and obtains water along Church Street on a bush where she once lived.
	Zandile	unknown	She is hopeful that the Lord will guide government to do the right thing and provide them with houses	unknown	She is originally from KwaZulu Natal and currently lives on the bush	She does piece jobs such as cleaning and laundry	Her shelter is made of plastic and hard board.	Outside	unknown	unknown
Women living with their children without spouses/boyfriends	Ayanda	1	She has a positive outlook on life because she wants to start her own business. However she does not feel safe on the site.	Standard 6	She is originally from the Eastern Cape. She lived in Oliven with family. She relocated to a bush adjacent to Tiger Wheel in Midrand and then to the bush.	She does ad hoc recycling and sells cigarettes	The shelter that she lives in is constructed out of plastic, boards and the door is a blind	Outside	The Church assists her. The JMPD has harassed her by burning her clothes	She uses the bush as a toilet and collects water from a standalone pipe in the bush. She gains access to health care services from Midway Mews however the first time she went to the clinic she was turned away.
Single women with no children	Xoliswa	0	Positive outlook on life that she will get a new house. But she does not feel safe on the site.	Standard 6	She is originally from the Eastern Cape. She settled in Ivory Park prior to moving to the bush in Midrand central.	She is a hawker	Her shelter is constructed out of plastic, cardboard boxes and crates.	Outside	Church assists her but JMPD has harassed her by burning down her shack. Since they have the security at the gate they have not been bothered by the JMPD	She uses the bush on the other side as a toilet and collects water from a standalone pipe . She goes to the clinic in Ivory Park to gain access o health care facilities.